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ONTARIO
DEPARTMENT
OF
EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

Re BOOKS for SCHOOL LIBRARIES

(Elementary Schools)

CURRICULUM: 9

30,000—APRIL, 1955

Ministry of Education, Ontario
Historical Collection

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Memorandum re Books for School Libraries

The Department is asked from time to time for suggestions about books of recent publication suitable for the use of school libraries. The following list contains the names of books published within the last few years that appear to be valuable for supplementary reading or reference purposes. Most of the books listed are by Canadian authors and deal with matters of Canadian interest. Most of them also are directly related to the courses of study in Grades 5 to 8. A few have been on the market for some time and have proved their value as supplementary reading in schools. These books are drawn to the attention of School Boards and teachers who contemplate making additions to the school library. The books listed are subject to the reimbursement grant for reference books in those municipalities where it applies in the manner set forth in the Grant Regulations.

In each case the name of the Canadian publisher is shown. The prices shown are list prices as furnished to the Department by the publisher. Most of these books can, no doubt, be obtained from local booksellers. If the books are purchased locally the bookseller might properly charge the list price as he will have been at the expense of paying carriage charges from the publisher and the cost of handling; he may, however, be able to grant a discount to School Boards. If books are not to be obtained locally, they may be purchased direct from the publishers at the usual discount of 20% to schools. If several books are to be

ordered and several publishers are involved, the bulk order may be sent to The Co-operative Book Centre, 146 Wellington Street West, Toronto. The Book Centre has agreed to assemble the books from various publishers, send them in one shipment, and bill the Board on one invoice. Books ordered from The Book Centre will also be subject to the publisher's discount of 20% to schools.

The following extracts from the courses of study are repeated here to remind the teacher of the importance attached to extensive reading by the pupil and the value of the classroom library in fostering this habit.

SUPPLEMENTARY READING

The most important phase of the English course is supplementary reading. Indeed its importance can scarcely be overestimated. When a child has learned to read, he will extend his own education indefinitely, provided he has enough suitable books and proper guidance and encouragement in their use. Such extensive reading should be regarded not merely as a source of information but as a desirable form of recreation. The child who has learned to love reading is not only likely to continue his education all through life, but is prepared profitably to enjoy his leisure. . . .

THE CLASSROOM LIBRARY

To cultivate properly the love of reading and to form the habit of finding in books information and enjoyment, children must have ready access to books. Every classroom, then, should have a small library of well-chosen, attractive books—well-chosen in that they appeal to the natural interests of children, and attractive in size, binding, and general format. The needs of the younger children in this regard should

receive particular attention as they are less likely to find for themselves books which they can read with pleasure and profit. The classroom library should contain reference books related to the Programme of Studies, and story books to be read for delight should also find a place on its shelves. Books for supplementary reading should not be purchased in sets. Forty different books are of much greater value in a classroom than forty copies of the same book.

Programme of Studies, Grades 1-6.

An atmosphere of interest in good books and wholesome reading should be established in the English classroom and in the school library by the provision of attractive library facilities, including adequate shelving and a wide variety of reading with emphasis on interesting books of adventure and noble deeds. . . . Teachers should make good use of the facilities of the travelling library and should co-operate with and encourage the use of the community library. But neither of these agencies can take the place of a well-stocked school library containing the sort of reading which young people like and from which they can derive most benefit.

Curriculum I: 1.

The importance of the classroom library in the English programme requires the teacher to assume responsibility for the selection of suitable books. The fact that a considerable sum of public money is devoted each year in the form of legislative grants to the improvement and enlargement of classroom and school libraries adds to this responsibility.

The following are excellent reference books on children's reading containing advice on the choosing of

books for children from kindergarten to early high school years.*

Arbuthnot, M. H.: CHILDREN AND BOOKS, 1947, pp. 626, $4.00, W. J. Gage and Company.

Frank, Josette: YOUR CHILD'S READING TODAY, 1954, pp. 328, $4.75, Doubleday Canada Ltd.

Smith, Lillian H.: THE UNRELUCTANT YEARS, 1953, pp. 193, $4.50, American Library Association.

Thomson, Jean: BOOKS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS, 1954, pp. 297, $7.50, The Ryerson Press.

THE UNRELUCTANT YEARS by Lillian H. Smith, contains a wealth of wisdom about children's reading distilled from the author's years of experience as Head of the Boys' and Girls' Division of the Toronto Public Libraries. It does not contain exhaustive lists but deals with the principles of selection and discusses, with ample illustration, the qualities that constitute good literature for children. To quote from the author's Foreword: "The importance of the selective function in finding and making known the best in children's literature is the theme of this book. To tolerate the mediocre and the commonplace is to misunderstand the purpose of book selection and the significance of literature."

BOOKS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS contains an annotated list of some 2000 titles edited by Jean Thomson, now Head of the Boys' and Girls' Division, Toronto Public Libraries.

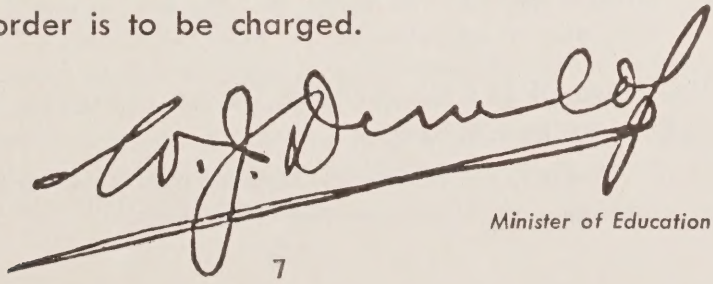
*These books may be borrowed from the Teachers' Reference Library, Travelling Libraries Branch of the Department of Education, 206 Huron Street, Toronto. The catalogue of the Teachers' Reference Library has been sent to all schools; the facilities of this library are available to all teachers in public and separate schools (except those in the largest urban centres). See catalogue for conditions governing the borrowing of books.

Only those books considered to be of permanent interest to boys and girls have been listed, including the best of American, English, and Canadian children's literature. The book should be of particular value to Canadian teachers because it reflects the taste of Canadian boys and girls as observed by children's librarians in Canadian Public Libraries over a period of many years.

Teachers of Grades 7 and 8 are also referred to Curriculum 1:4 (Intermediate Division Supplementary Reading List) and the leaflet, Supplementary Reading Books added 1955.

A teacher who, because of lack of experience, feels doubtful of his ability to order wisely, or a principal who doubts the wisdom of an order submitted by a teacher, is advised to consult the Inspector about the proposed order before sending it on.

The lists contained in the reference books named above show the name of the original publisher, but for books published out of Canada the name of the Canadian importer is not shown. Books from these lists, however, can be secured from Canadian booksellers or from The Co-operative Book Centre if author, title, and publisher are clearly shown on the order. The order should also show clearly the address to which the books are to be sent, and the name and address of the person or School Board to whom the order is to be charged.



Minister of Education

GENERAL

THE SCHOOL TRAIN, Acker, Helen, 1953, pp. 118, $1.95, Nelson, Foster and Scott, Limited.

This story was inspired by the work of Jas. R. Chalmers, the teacher of school car No. 4, which travels west out of Port Arthur. Six school cars are operated under the direction of the Department of Education to supply schooling for children along the railway lines of Northern Ontario for whom other educational facilities are not available. The story of the school cars has not previously been told in book form; and, although this book is fiction, the background is authentic. The author is an American who has spent much time in Northern Ontario. This book is the result of a visit to school car No. 4 made by Miss Acker in 1947. Suitable for grades 5 to 8.

THE GREAT ISLAND, Bice, Clare, 1954, pp. 103, $3.00, Macmillan Company of Canada Limited.

Two boys in search of pirate gold in the caves along the rugged Newfoundland coast became involved with mysterious strangers who were engaged in archaeological and scientific research. Illustrated by the author. Grades 5 to 7.

MUSKOKA HOLIDAY, Boyle, Joyce, 1953, pp. 216, $2.00, Macmillan Company of Canada Limited.

This is a story of the adventures of a group of children who went to Muskoka for their summer holidays. The author, Dr. Joyce Boyle, is an experienced writer of children's stories. She is a teacher on the staff of the Forest Hill Public Schools. Grades 6 to 8.

WHERE THE HIGH WINDS BLOW, Campbell, B. D., 1951, pp. 220, $1.25, The Book Society.

A vivid account of the experiences of the author during five years in the Canadian Arctic as an employee of the Hudson's Bay Company. Contains an excellent description of Eskimo life. The black-and-white illustrations by Phillip Bear are admirably clear and expressive. Grades 6, 7, and 8.

THE TRAIL OF THE RED CANOE, Govan, Margaret, 1954, pp. 179, $2.00, J. M. Dent & Sons.

The story of a canoe trip in Algonquin Park. The author is the director of a private camp for girls near Huntsville, Ontario.

PADDLE-TO-THE-SEA, Holling, Holling Clancy, 1941, $3.50, Thos. Allen Ltd.

The travels of a toy Indian canoe from the head of the Great Lakes down the St. Lawrence River to the Atlantic Ocean. The full-page illustrations portray in a striking manner the character of the country through which the little boat passes. Grades 4 to 6.

THE ASCENT OF EVEREST, Hunt, John, 1954, pp. 160, $1.25, Clarke, Irwin & Company Ltd.

THE ASCENT OF EVEREST, RETOLD FOR YOUNGER READERS, 1954, pp. 96, 75¢.

The story of the conquest of Mount Everest in 1953. Well told and well illustrated.

CONSERVATION AND WILD LIFE

THE ADVENTURES OF SAJO AND HER BEAVER PEOPLE, Grey Owl, 1935, $2.50, British Book Services.

Story of two Indian children and their animal friends. Grades 6 to 8.

LAND AND WATER TRAILS, Jaeger, Ellsworth, 1953, pp. 227, $2.95, Macmillan Company of Canada Limited.

A good reference book for the classroom library on camping, woodcraft, and wild life. Grades 7 and 8.

THE FRIENDLY FORESTS, Moore, A. C., 1954, pp. 96, $2.75, The Macmillan Company of Canada Limited.

An excellent supplementary book on Conservation. It describes the forests on this continent as they were when the first settlers came. Explains the effect of deforestation on top soil, water supply, and wild life. Explains the relationship between deforestation and floods and discusses means of restoring the forests. Good illustrations, Grade 8.

THE FIRE PATROL, Reynolds, Dickson, 1949, pp. 192, $2.00, Thos. Nelson and Sons.

A story of the British Columbia forests. Two boys spend a summer as forestry helpers with the men who guard the forests from fire and blight. The book contains interesting accounts of wild life and an account of the fighting of a great forest fire. Grades 7 and 8.

PETER THE SEA TROUT, Thistle, Mel, 1954, pp. 177, $2.75, The Ryerson Press.

A fictional account of the life history of an Atlantic sea trout. Peter's curiosity and desire for wisdom took him through many rivers, lakes, and Atlantic coast waters and led him into many adventures with other fish and aquatic animals from snails to whales. The author, a native of Newfoundland, is now a resident of Ottawa. Grades 5 to 8.

CANADIAN HISTORY

DRUMS OF NIAGARA, Acland, Eric, 1953, pp. 226, $2.50,Thomas Nelson and Sons.

An adventure story of the period of the American Revolution and the coming of the Loyalists to Upper Canada.

THE GOLDEN TRAIL, Berton, P., 1954, pp. 147, $2.00, Macmillan Company of Canada Limited.

This is a story of the Klondike gold rush 1896 to 1899. It is fiction but historically authentic. The author, Pierre Berton, is the Managing Editor of Maclean's Magazine.

THE NOR'WESTERS, Campbell, Marjorie W., 1954, pp. 176, $2.00, The Macmillan Company of Canada Limited.

An account of the North West Company from its formation to its amalgamation with the Hudson's Bay Company. Contains a good account of the Selkirk settlers. Suitable for supplementary use in connection with Unit 4 of the Grade 7 Social Studies Course.

REBEL ON THE TRAIL, Cook, Lyn, A Story of the 1837 Rebellion, 1953, pp. 247, $2.50, The Macmillan Company of Canada Limited.

This is a novel suitable for grades 7, 8, and 9, interestingly written with authentic background. The author was the first full-time children's librarian in the City of Sudbury. She has written two other books for children, *The Bells on Finland Street*, and *The Little Magic Fiddler*.

SON OF THE MOHAWKS, Edwards, C. A. M., 1954, pp. 188, $3.00, The Ryerson Press.

The story of Pierre Radisson's capture by the Mohawks, his adventures with the tribes, and his escapes during the years 1652 to 1654. Historically authentic and full of dramatic action.

REBELS RIDE AT NIGHT, Hayes, John F., 1953, pp. 286, $3.00, The Copp Clark Company Ltd.

An adventure story for boys. The story provides a vivid description of the beginnings of the Rebellion of 1837, the clash at Montgomery's Tavern, and the aftermath of the Rebellion.

TREASON AT YORK, Hayes, John F., pp. 314, $2.75, The Copp Clark Co. Ltd.

This is a story of the War of 1812, the scene being laid at York (Toronto) and Fort Niagara. There is a vivid description of the capture and burning of York in 1812. Grades 7 and 8.

BUCKSKIN COLONIST, Hayes, John F., 1947, pp. 251, $2.75, The Copp Clark Co. Ltd.

An exciting story of the Selkirk settlers, packed with adventure. Grades 7 and 8.

A LAND DIVIDED, Hayes, John F., 1951, pp. 285, $2.75, The Copp Clark Co. Ltd.

A story of the expulsion of the Acadians. This book won the Governor-General's Award for juvenile fiction in 1953.

The author of these books is a Canadian, was educated in Winnipeg, is at present Vice-President and General Manager of the Southam Press, Montreal.

THE PICTURE GALLERY OF CANADIAN HISTORY, Jeffreys, C. W., The Ryerson Press.

Volume I—1942, pp. 268, $2.75
,, II—1945, pp. 271, $2.75
,, III—1950, pp. 252, $2.75

An excellent reference series for the classroom library, Grades 7 and 8. Contain several hundred pictures drawn from old prints and paintings or from surviving objects of the past in Canada and a large selection from the imaginative pictures and episodes of Canadian History made by the artist during a period of 40 years. The text contains notes on those pictures about which additional information seems to be required.

CANADIANS OF LONG AGO, Kidd, Kenneth E., 1951, pp. 174, $2.00, Longmans, Green and Company.

This book is sub-titled, The Story of the Canadian Indian. It deals with the social organization and life of the coast Indians, the Indians of the plains, the Algonquins and the Iroquois. The Hurons are treated as a branch of the Iroquois family. The book is suitable as a reference and for supplementary reading in connection with Unit 2 of the grade 7 Social Studies course. It is well illustrated, interestingly written, and the information contained is authentic. Mr. Kidd is the Curator of the Ethnographical Collection, Royal Ontario Museum of Archaeology. He has had considerable experience with giving talks to groups of school children who visit the Museum and the language of the book is well suited to the Grade 6, 7, and 8 levels.

BLACK FALCON, Knox, Olive, 1954, pp. 192, $3.00, The Ryerson Press.

An adventure story of the Canadian West at the end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century based on authentic material. Grades 7 and 8.

LITTLE GIANT, Knox, Olive, 1951, pp. 196, $2.75, The Ryerson Press.

An adventure story set in the Canadian Northland in the early days of the Hudson's Bay Company. The hero, Henry Kelsey, is a historical character and the book is based on his journal and records of the Hudson's Bay Company. Grades 7 and 8.

NORTH FOR ADVENTURE, Lambert, R. S., 1952, pp. 208, $1.95, McClelland and Stewart Limited.

A story based on the travels and experiences of Samuel Hearne, an officer in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company, who discovered the Coppermine River. The book is written as fiction but all episodes are derived from Hearne's Journals and no fact incompatible with the Journals has been introduced. R. S. Lambert is Supervisor of School Broadcasts for the C.B.C. He is the author of the text-book, *They Went Exploring* (Book Society). Grades 6 to 8.

FRANKLIN OF THE ARCTIC, Lambert, R. S., 1949, pp. 354, $2.50, McClelland and Stewart Limited.

A vivid and absorbing biographical novel of the life and adventures of Sir John Franklin. Historically authentic, good illustrations and maps. This book earned the Governor-General's award for juvenile books in 1949, and, in the same year, the medal of the Canadian Association of Children's Librarians for Canadian books.

THE SCARLET FORCE, The Making of the Mounted Police, Longstreth, T. Morris, 1953, pp. 182, $2.00. The Macmillan Company of Canada Limited.

This book covers the history of the early days of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and relates the story of the Force from its founding until 1900. Suitable for supplementary use with Unit 5 of the grade 7 Social Studies course. Longstreth is the author of a history of the R.C.M.P. for adults called *The Silent Force,* and other books.

THE FORCE CARRIES ON, Longstreth, T. Morris, 1954, pp. 182, $2.00. The Macmillan Company of Canada Limited.

A sequel to *The Scarlet Force,* describing the expansion of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. It contains a good account of the training of a Mounted Policeman. Grades 7 and 8.

RAIDERS OF THE MOHAWK, The Story of Butler's Rangers, Miller, Orlo, 1954, $2.00, The Macmillan Company of Canada Limited.

This is a fictional account of the famous Loyalist regiment which was raised during the American Revolution and was of great assistance to the Loyalists on their migration to Canada. Written for grades 7 and 8. The author is a Canadian engaged in radio work in London, Ontario.

BUCKSKIN BRIGADIER, McCourt, Edward, 1955, pp. 150, $2.00, The Macmillan Company of Canada Limited.

A story of the North West Rebellion in 1885, and Major-General Tom Strange, known in the west as the "buckskin brigadier", who gathered together a group of cowboys, Mounted Police, Calgary Home Guard and the Alberta Mounted Rifles to fight the rebels. An interesting story. Grades 7 and 8.

CARGOES ON THE GREAT LAKES, McPhedran, M., 1954, pp. 226, $2.75, The Macmillan Company of Canada Limited.

The author tells the story of a summer spent in freighters on the Great Lakes. The book contains a vast amount of information about types of freighters and cargoes, Canadian and American ports, and life aboard ship. Grades 7 and 8.

THE BOY WHO RAN AWAY, Phelan, J., 1954, pp. 152, $2.50, The Macmillan Company of Canada Limited.

An adventure story of pioneer days in the Canadian Northwest. The author, a former Ontario high school teacher, is now a librarian in the Toronto Public Libraries.

FREEDOM TRAIN, Sterling, Dorothy, 1954, pp. 191, $2.75, Doubleday.

This is the story of Harriet Tubman, a negro slave who escaped to Canada and helped many slaves to escape via the Underground Railroad. Many escaped slaves formed a small community of freedmen in St. Catharines which became their home. Grades 7 and 8.

FAMOUS CANADIAN STORIES, Tait, George E., 1953, pp. 312, $1.95, McClelland and Stewart Limited.

This book contains excellent supplementary material related to the grade 7 course in Social Studies. The vocabulary, sentence structure, and general arrangement are suitable for that grade. George Tait is the author of the text-books, *Breastplate and Buckskin,* and *The World Was Wide,* as well as a number of "juveniles"—*Wake of the West Wind, The Silent Gulls,* and *The Saddle of Carlos Perez*—which have been well received. He is Professor of Education at the Ontario College of Education.

RETURN OF THE VIKING, Wuorio, Eva-Lis, 1955, pp. 208, $3.00, Clarke, Irwin & Company Ltd.

The story is a mixture of fact and fantasy centring around four historical characters—Lief the Lucky, Louis Hebert (the first Canadian farmer), Nils von Shoultz (a Polish leader in the Patriots' war, 1838), Prince Rupert (whose interest in Radisson and Groseilliers led to the founding of the Hudson's Bay Company). Good illustrations. Grades 6 to 8.

BRITISH HISTORY

THE MARCH OF TIME, Horniblow and Sullivan, 1953, The House of Grant (Canada) Ltd.

Book 1, *Stories of Long Ago,* pp. 150, 86¢.

A series of stories of the ancient world simply told. Grades 4 and 5.

Book 2, *Mighty Men and Mighty Deeds,* pp. 160, 95¢.

Stories of heroes of the Roman world and Europe after the fall of the Roman Empire. Grades 4 to 6.

Book 3, *Kings and Queens, Knights and Heroes,* pp. 232, $1.08.

Contains stories from British History from the Roman invasion to the defeat of the Spanish Armada.

Book 4, *Makers of Our Modern World,* pp. 226, $1.08.

Contains stories from British History—1600 to the present day. The stories are very simply told and the books are very easy reading for Grade 8 but they are on the Grade 8 course in Social Studies.

THE VALLEY GROWS UP, Osmond, Edward, 1953, pp. 82, $2.50, Oxford University Press.

A story of the growth of an English valley through the centuries—from 5000 B.C. to the present time—as it gradually develops from an uninhabited hillside and swamp to become the site of a busy modern town. Excellent illustrations in black and white and in colour. Grades 6 to 8.

A PORTRAIT OF THE MIDDLE AGES, Price, M. R., 1951, pp. 256+32, $1.50, Oxford University Press.

An excellent account of social life in England from 1066-1485. Well illustrated. Grade 8.

A PORTRAIT OF BRITAIN UNDER TUDORS AND STUARTS, Price & Mather, 1954, pp. 256+32, $1.50, Oxford University Press.

Excellent supplementary reading material for use in connection with the Grade 8 course in Social Studies.

TEACHERS' REFERENCES

THE WHITE AND THE GOLD, Costain, Thomas B., 1954, pp. 482, $5.00, Doubleday Canada Ltd.

This book covers the history of the French Regime in Canada to 1700. It is written in considerable detail in an interesting style with some stirring passages Contains many admirable passages of background material which put events in Canada in the context of contemporary events in France.

SAINTE-MARIE AMONG THE HURONS, Jury & Jury, 1954, pp. 128, $3.50, Oxford University Press.

This book is an account of the excavations begun in 1948 at Sainte-Marie, the residence of the Jesuit Mission to the Huron Indians near the present town of Midland. This residence was occupied by the missionaries from 1640-1649. The book reconstructs in detail the surroundings and daily lives of these missionaries, the first Europeans to make a settled abode in Upper Canada. Wilfrid Jury, an outstanding Canadian archaeologist, is Curator of the Museum of Indian Archaeology in the University of Western Ontario.

THE PARKMAN READER, Morison, S. E., 1955, pp. 524, $6.75, McClelland and Stewart Limited.

An excellent selection from the writings of Francis Parkman, with intro duction and notes, covering the French period in Canada to 1763.

Memorandum

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Publishers

THOMAS ALLEN LTD., 266 King St. W., Toronto

THE BOOK SOCIETY OF CANADA LTD., Shepherd Ave., Agincourt

BRITISH BOOK SERVICES (CANADA) LTD., 1068 Broadview Avenue, Toronto

CLARKE, IRWIN & CO. LTD., 103 St. Clair Ave. West, Toronto

COPP CLARK CO. LTD., 517 Wellington St. West, Toronto

J. M. DENT & SONS (CANADA) LTD., 224 Bloor St. West, Toronto

DOUBLEDAY CANADA LIMITED, 105 Bond St., Toronto

W. J. GAGE & COMPANY LTD., 84 Spadina Ave., Toronto

THE HOUSE OF GRANT (CANADA) LTD., 88 Metcalfe St., Ottawa

LONGMANS, GREEN & COMPANY, 20 Cranfield Road, Toronto 16

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY OF CANADA LTD., 70 Bond St., Toronto

McCLELLAND & STEWART LTD., 25 Hollinger Road, Toronto

NELSON, FOSTER & SCOTT LTD., 87 John Street, Toronto

THOMAS NELSON & SONS (CANADA) LTD., 91 Wellington St. West, Toronto

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 480 University Avenue, Toronto

THE RYERSON PRESS, 299 Queen St. W., Toronto

THE CO-OPERATIVE BOOK CENTRE, 146 Wellington Street West, Toronto